

What's Happening in May 2009

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Calendar

[Phantom Ball](#)

May 4-15

AP Exams

May 9 8AM

WHS 5K Race

May 11

ANGP Meeting

6:30 A hallway

Bulldog Bucks

Distribution for senior during lunches

May 12 2:05PM

ANGP Prize pickup for Seniors—Cafeteria

May 15-17

Theater

Production *Into the Woods*

May 19

Spring Guitar

President's Message

April was a busy month for the PTSA. We helped coordinate a successful program named, "**A Parent's Wake Up Call**", at Chantilly HS. In it five parents and a young high school graduate shared their individual and family struggles with substance abuse. It was covered by TV news and the Washington Post. Several local organizations, including Alcohol and Drug Services gave out helpful information.

Westfield High School has partnered with the Fairfax County Police to offer a **unique drug and alcohol awareness program to our students and parents**. The day-long tour incorporates a number of eye-opening, educational venues to students and parents in an effort to prevent drug and alcohol use among our teens. The program emphasizes the importance of good decision-making related to teen driving. Powerful presentations at the Annandale police station, Fairfax Hospital, the Fairfax County Adult Court and Detention Center and Fairfax Memorial Cemetery are among the places that students and parents visit. The next opportunity for students and their parent to take advantage of this unique program will be scheduled for May or June. Please email Principal Tim Thomas or Asst. Principal Dave Jagels at tim.thomas@fcps.edu or david.jagels@fcps.edu if you and your student are interested in taking advantage of this dynamic experience. The **ADP (Alcohol and Drug Prevention) Tour** is an excellent way for your child to learn to be a leader and say, "No" to peer pressure. Knowledge is power.

We had an incredibly organized and largest mulch sale in the history of our school. Thanks to those who worked tirelessly to prepare and deliver mulch on Saturday April 25th. Congratulations on a great job!

Thank you to those who supported our fundraiser for Tropical Smoothie Cafe last week. Please consider supporting our **BJ's membership fundraiser** and get an extended membership in the process. [Download BJ's application form.](#)

Throughout the next week or two, the Track Team and Crew Club will spread hundreds of mulch bags to those who ordered the extra service. Good job!

The **next PTSA Meeting is Thursday, May 21st 7pm** in the library in order to vote on next year's 2009-2010 PTSA board. The current slate includes: Jennifer Campbell, President; Mary Coleman, 1st Vice-President, Salma Ashmawi, 2nd Vice President, Kim Gilbert, Secretary, and Kathy Sander, Treasurer. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. If you are interested in any position on the PTSA Executive Board or PTSA Committee, please let Meg Crossett know at meglawless@cox.net.

If you're a senior, remember the **PTSA ACE Scholarship applications** are due by the end of the school day on Monday, May 4th. [Download the application form.](#)

*Sincerely,
Salma Ashmawi, WHS PTSA President*

Tidbits

- Westfield High School has partnered with the Fairfax County Police to offer a **unique drug and alcohol awareness program to our students and parents**. The day-long tour incorporates a number of eye-opening, educational venues to students and parents in an effort to **prevent drug and alcohol use among our teens**. The program emphasizes the importance of good decision-making related to teen driving. Powerful presentations at the Annandale police station, Fairfax Hospital, the Fairfax County Adult Court and Detention Center and Fairfax Memorial Cemetery are among the places that students and parents visit. The next opportunity for students and parents to take advantage of this unique program will be scheduled for May or June. Please email Principal Tim Thomas or Asst. Principal Dave Jagels at tim.thomas@fcps.edu or david.jagels@fcps.edu if your and your

Extravaganza

May 21

PTSA meeting
7pm Library

May 28 6PM

Initial Bulldog
BBQ Committee
Mtg, Rm 103

May 25

Memorial Day no
school

May 29

Senior Prom @
Westfield Marriot

Jun 5

Early Dismissal
for students

Jun 1 7PM

Band Awards

Jun 3, 2009

5-9PM

MAC End of the
Year BBQ—Cafeteria

Jun 5-6

VA State Jubilee
@ Westfield Athletic
Fields

Jun 8 & 10

Dealer Training
for ANGP

Jun 9

Senior
Baccalaureate

Jun 10

Last Day to buy
ANGP Tickets

Jun 12

Theater Awards-
Auditorium 7pm

Jun 15

Athletic Awards
Night

Senior Awards
Ceremony 7pm

Auditorium

Jun 18

Graduation at
GMU 7:30pm

Last day of school

Jun 18-10

ANGP ESPN;
board buses at
10:45pm for
departure from
Westfield HS

Board

Members

President:

[Salma Ashmawi](#)

1st VP:

[Jennifer Campbell](#)

2nd VP:

[Denise Stalaker](#)

Recording

Secretary:

[Mary Coleman](#)

Treasurer:

student are interested in taking advantage of this dynamic experience.

- A series of workshops will be presented throughout Fairfax County on "[Little Know Secrets of Paying for College.](#)"

Share Your Life—Host an AFS Exchange Student Each year, AFS exchanges close to 13,000 students, young adults and teachers from around the world who want to experience what it's like to live and study in another country. Find out more by visiting their [web site](#) or contacting Jerene Thomas, 703-759-3166, Thomasjere@aol.com

With the end of the school year quickly approaching, exciting student traditions such as prom and graduation will be here before you know it. During these events, teenagers may face tough decisions regarding alcohol. **The Health Alliance on Alcohol (HAA)** would like to offer assistance to parents whose teens will soon face these tough decisions through our series of [Facts & Conversations](#) books that provide parents with guidance on how to talk to their teens about alcohol. These books are available at no cost in both English and Spanish.

5K News

Westfield 5K Race Committee Calls for Participants and [Sponsors](#)

The Westfield HS 5K Race is calling for race participants and sponsors for its 8th annual run, which will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2009, at 8a.m. **All proceeds from the WHS 5K race run will be used to fund scholarships for Westfield seniors.** [Register Online](#) or [Download Application](#). Read [more online](#).

Any questions, please contact us at 5kPTSA@westfieldhs.org.

ANGP News

The ANGP, a senior "lock in " at ESPN Zone in Washington, DC, scheduled for June 18th, takes place immediately following the graduation. For more information, visit <http://ptsa.westfieldhs.org>. **Tickets are now \$90.** The price goes up on June 1st to \$105. **PLEASE NOTE: NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER JUNE 10th.** There will be no refunds!! For financial hardships, contact your guidance counselor, and decisions are based on students' special and confidential circumstances. Tickets can be purchased via the [PTSA web site via PayPal](#), at the ANGP monthly ticket table at all lunches, or by downloading a form and sending it to school with a check made out to WHS ANGP for the ticket amount. Any questions, or to help contact Pam Murdoch at angp@westfieldhs.org.

Remember to complete the [Risk Form now available online](#). No one will be admitted without this form.

The following are dates that students can purchase their ANGP tickets in the cafeteria or pick up their T-Shirts for tickets previously purchased.

Students can turn in their ticket money anytime to the office. Schedule of T-Shirts Pick-Up In The Cafeteria All Dates are on Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

May 13, 14, 15

Also May 27, 28, 29

June 10, 11

Contact Pam Murdoch at angp@westfieldhs.org if you're interested in attending or joining a committee. [Sign up to volunteer](#)

Pam Murdoch

All Night Graduation Party 2009 Chair

BITS Tutoring

What is BITS? A Free Tutoring Program for Students in Grades 3—12 that meets three Saturdays a month from October through May.

Time: 9:30—11:30 AM

Place: Westfield High School—Library

To Register: [Download forms](#), or pick up the forms in the sub schools;

[Kathy Sanders](#)

[View more board member](#)

Links of Interest

- [Fairfax County Public School](#)
- [Fairfax County Council of PTAs](#)
- [Northern Virginia District PTA](#)
- [Virginia PTA](#)
- [National PTA](#)
- [US Department of Education](#)
- [Safe VA Highways](#)
- [Alliance for Virginia Students](#)
- [FCPS Family Gram](#)
- [FCPS Parent Resources](#)
- [FCPS Inclement Weather Plans](#)
- [Sign up for FCPS Keep In Touch](#)
- [Athletic Boosters](#)
- [Band Boosters](#)
- [Choral Boosters](#)
- [Guitar Boosters](#)
- [Orchestra Boosters](#)
- [Theatre Boosters](#)

Reminder

Items to be included in the May 2009 Bulldog Bulletin must be **submitted to newsletter@westfieldhs.org on or before Apr 24, 2009**

Your feedback is important to us. Send to newsletter@westfieldhs.org comments or suggestions to make your PTSA better

return to your counselor or bring with you on your first day. For more Information please contact one of the following:

- Your Guidance Counselor
- Pat Williams, WHS Sub-School Principal 703 488-6371
- Carol Jasper, BITS Coordinator 703 488-6363 ext 7167
- Nancy Tortorella, BITS Coordinator -703-488-6363 ext 7167

Fundraising News

BJ's Wholesale Club FUNDRAISER PROGRAM Sponsored by WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ([view flyer and application form](#))

PTSA is has reinitiated their BJ's membership fundraiser. More details and downloadable forms are [available online](#). The application has also been translated in the Spanish. The BJ's Membership drive runs from 4/13 – 6/1. Contact Evelyn Spain at waysmean@westfieldhs.org.

1. Families receive memberships for \$10 less then the regular fee or either \$45 or \$80 along with a membership that would last 15 months instead of the regular 12 months.
2. FREE Second Membership Card for a household member
3. PLUS, BJ's will donate \$5 of your Membership fee to your Non-Profit Organization!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Tropical Smoothie Cafe Fundraiser Westfield High School PTSA had a Fund Raising Event at Tropical Smoothie Cafe on TUESDAY, APRIL 21st. Tropical Smoothie Café even had a Smoothie Guy on the premises, Tuesday afternoon to remind the students of the event that evening. We had a great turn out, delicious food and on top of everything Tropical Smoothie Cafe donated \$300 to the PTSA Technology and Education Project.

BJ's Wholesale Fundraiser Thank you to for participating in the BJ's Membership Drive in January of 2009. BJs Corporation awarded Westfield High School \$125 that will be used towards the PTSA Technology and Education Project.

Remember the [other ways to help WHS through shopping](#).

Landscaping News

Earn Community Service Hours at "Westfield's Arbor Days" ([Download Flyer](#))

Tree planting and spring landscaping **May 3 and 17 from 1 PM until 4 PM** (weather permitting). Sign up table will be located in the front of the school across from the flagpole.

Families, service groups, kids (under 12 must be supervised by an adult), students (any one needing community service hours) are welcome to attend. Bring wheelbarrows, rakes, brooms, work gloves, and garden tools.

Thank you. Mona Miller
landscapecoord@westfieldhs.org

Minority Achievement News

Remember to attend the End of the Year BBQ—Cafeteria, **Jun 3, 2009 5-9PM** to celebrate the many accomplishments this past year.

Minority Achievement Committee next monthly meeting **will be held on Wednesday May 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.** Please mark this date on your calendar.

Sincerely,
Mark Richardson, MAC Chairperson
[Minority Achievement Homepage](#)

Volunteers Committee News

Parent volunteers to help with Prom ticket sales?

We would need two or three parents during lunches (10:50-1:10) from May 12th- May 26th. The dates we really need are May 13, May 15, May 18, May 22, and May 26. (B

days) They can contact amy.sutphin@fcps.edu or amy.ward@fcps.edu if they have questions or if they would like to sign up to volunteer. We would like a couple of people that can come consistently but any help is appreciated.

*Suzanne Olijar
Volunteer Coordinator*

Scholarship News

The WHS PTSA is pleased to announce that The 2009 Westfield PTSA Scholarship application forms are now available online. Applications will also be available in the WHS career center through Diane Villars. The scholarship is open to any graduating senior from Westfield. Either the student or one parent must be a current member of the PTSA. Applications must be turned in to the WHS career center, Room G110, by 2:30 PM on May 4th. Awards will be announced at the Academic Awards Ceremony in mid June. [Visit web site](#) for more information.

[Other Various Scholarship Applications](#) are now available for download. Please note the submission deadline dates.

FCPS Newswire

FAIRFAX COUNTY WANTS YOUR INPUT ON CLOSING THE BUDGET GAP FOR FY 2010 Superintendent Jack D. Dale has presented a [three-tiered plan of budget cuts](#) (PDF format) to enable the school system to address a budget shortfall for FY 2010. Citizens can still [provide feedback](#) to the Fairfax County School Board and the Board of Supervisors [online](#). Learn more about the budget situation in a [video](#) by Superintendent Jack Dale. [Contact your current Board of Supervisors](#) to voice your concerns. [Read the latest information online.](#)

Donation to Fairfax County Public Schools, Computers & Peripherals, as well as art equipment & music instruments

Fairfax County Public Schools accepts donated computers and peripherals provided they meet acceptable specifications whether donated centrally or to a particular school. These technical standards establish the acceptable specifications for donated computers capable of connecting to the FCPS network. **Please note** that FCPS no longer accepts donations of Macintosh computers.

Acceptable minimum specifications for Windows-based computers:

- Pentium III / 863 MHz, VGA or better display adapter, 512 MB RAM, Mouse or pointing device, 20GB Hard Drive, 15" LCD monitor, CD- or DVD-ROM, Keyboard, All of the above in working order

[Contact FCPS to complete donation form.](#)

How Do I Update My Keep in Touch Account? Fairfax County Public Schools has a new vendor for the Blackboard Connect (formerly NTI, Connect-ED). Blackboard Connect is an award-winning company with years of experience with K-12 education systems, many as large as or larger than FCPS. To learn more about Parent View, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/fcps247.htm>. For assistance with Parent View, call 1-866-434-8880.

Fairfax County Public Schools Keep in Touch (KIT) has a new feature. Now you can subscribe to receive specific topics you request, such as swine flu updates and other current news. You can also select to receive press releases, media tips and School Board updates. **You may also subscribe to receive community outreach messages** from the school division and up to five schools. This service is in addition to the KIT messages you may already be receiving because your child enrolled in a Fairfax County school. Visit <http://www.fcps.edu/kit/>.

Community Programs

Look at what The FCPS Parent Resource Center has coming up!

View a complete list of all upcoming Workshops and Activities posted to the PRC [web site](#).

Westfield Community Coalition

Underage drinking parties can be reported anonymously to the police at 703-691-2131 where they will disperse police assistance, or 703-246-2333 for the "Shut it Down" Hotline, to report date, time, and location of an underage drinking party. To report WHS security concerns, contact Ray Clements at 703-488-6307 or Ray.Clements@fcps.edu

Under Age Tip Line 703-691-2131. Underage drinking parties can be reported anonymously to the police at this number. They will disperse police assistance.

Feeling Alone? Don't know what to do? Tired of Signaling for help? Is your Adolescent in trouble? Is your teenager running away, truant, abusing alcohol or drugs, out of control at home, school, or in the community? This is a free group sponsored by the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. Parent's Support Group — Every Tuesday at 7:30pm at The Historical Courthouse Bldg, 4000 Chain Bridge Rd., Fairfax, VA Room 2221. This is a walk-in group with no registration necessary, for parents of a teenager seeking help finding information, gaining insight or regaining control of their child. Contact Fran DeLoatche or Paula King at 703-246-2495 for further information.

Powerful video on seatbelts. It was produced by Montana Dept of Transportation. It is a true story. No actors." http://www.mdt.mt.gov/mdt/room_to_live.shtml

Shut It Down Hotline 703-246-2333, to report date, time and location of an underage drinking party if you hear about it ahead of time.

Leslie Churn, MA, Substance Abuse Counselor for Westfield HS Contact 703-488-6308 or at Leslie.Churn@fcps.edu for a free and confidential assessment.

Ethics Day at Westfield HS (Cluster 8; Westfield HS)

Sophomores learn valuable lessons about decision-making and consequences. (5:15 min) http://www.fcps.edu/DIT/streaming/is8_ethicsday.aspx

Parents Who Host Lose the Most (Safe and Drug Free Youth; All Clusters)

Interview with Diane Eckert, Safe and Drug Free Youth and Tim Thomas, Westfield HS. (4:26) http://www.fcps.edu/DIT/streaming/is8_int_hostlosemost.aspx

Westfield Community Coalition Coordinator: Jennifer Cooper

(jalcooper@aol.com) 703-966-8304. Contact Jennifer to be on the email list to receive free information about prevention programs and upcoming events.

Unified Prevention Coalition

The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County Public Schools is dedicated to promoting prevention and early intervention for violence and drug use in our community. [Visit web site for resource information.](#)

Parent Guide to Personal Safety for Youth

Because of the exceptional popularity of the **KidSafe Virginia parent guides**, the Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP) recently worked to revise, update, and combine the previous parent guides into one guide. The purpose of the new publication, Prevention Comes First: Parent Guide to Personal Safety for Youth, is to educate parents about some of the potential safety threats children may face and to assist parents in communicating with their children about personal safety.

The topics covered in the guide include: fire safety, internet safety, driving safety, bullying, gangs, inhalant abuse prevention, and underage drinking. Beginning December 1, 2007, the parent guides will be available at fire and rescue stations and Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offices throughout the Commonwealth. To locate your nearest visit [DMV office](#) homepage.

Copies of the parent guide may also be downloaded from the [GOSAP Web site](#).

Questions may be addressed to Jacklyn Varela, special assistant to the Secretary of Public Safety at (804) 692-2568 or by e-mail: jacklyn.varela@governor.virginia.gov

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dad's of Great Students)

[WATCH D.O.G.S.®](#) (Dads Of Great Students) is the safe school initiative of the National Center for Fathering that involves fathers and father figures to help create a more safe and secure learning environment in our nation's schools. A great starting point to explore ways to get more men involved in PTA.

You received this newsletter because you signed up via online membership or hand submitted membership form.

You may subscribe or unsubscribe anytime by visiting <http://ptsa.westfieldhs.org/subscribe2/newsletter.php>